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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

TIMBER AND TIME ASKED BY ESPEE

Railroad Company Attorney Tells Conferees at Salem Today What It Demands in Land Grant Compromise

Salem, Nov. 18.—As a basis for "compromise" between the Southern Pacific railroad and the state of Oregon over the 2,300,000 acres in the Oregon & California land grant, Ralph Moody, representing the railroad, suggested today that the railroad company has an equity of \$2.50 an acre in the land and in addition owns the timber, which is the chief value of the land, and may take its own time in which to sell the lands.

The statement was made at the conference being held in the governor's office between representatives of the railroad and the committee appointed at the recent land grant conference to negotiate with the railroad company.

Then the sparring between the railroad representatives and the committee members continued until noon, when a recess was taken.

Each member of the committee gave expression to his ideas, and the only thing on which they seemed agreed was that the lands should be opened to settlers.

OREGON CITY SUICIDE LEAVES NINE CHILDREN

Oregon City, Nov. 18.—Nine children were orphaned when John Kekel, a widower, placed a shotgun under his chin and pulled the trigger, on his farm at Pete's Mountain today. Kekel's face was blown away. He is said to have had financial difficulties.

BATTLESHIPS MAY BE BUILT ENTIRELY BY GOVERNMENT

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, Nov. 18.—Every element connected with battleship building may be put under government ownership. Secretary of the Navy Daniels announced today that "because of a most serious situation that has arisen in our national defense program" the administration has under serious consideration such a sweeping move.

Daniels' announcement followed advices that three private bidders on new American navy battleships might perhaps be greatly delayed in constructing them because of inability to obtain supplies promptly.

"They come to us," he said, "asking for contracts on just the plea that they will be needed in time of war as part of the nation's preparedness. Now, when there is a profitable business abroad, they ship their supplies and munitions there, and leave this government to await their convenience."

The plans under contemplation include government owned or leased iron fields, shipyards, armor plate factories and everything else needed in building the nation's great sea dogs.

The chief obstacle to building vessels, either at the Mare Island or Philadelphia navy yards, is the time required to install necessary equipment. Daniels learned that it would cost \$200,000 alone to equip the Philadelphia yard, but nevertheless his would still be cheaper than if the vessels were to be built by private concerns.

HUGHES DECLINES TO ALLOW USE OF NAME ON BALLOT

Washington, Nov. 18.—Justice Hughes, of the United States supreme court, formally declined today to have his name go on the Nebraska republican primary ballots as presidential candidate.

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 18.—Regardless of the decision of Justice Hughes of the United States supreme court against having his name on the republican primary tickets, some of the state republican leaders declared today they will continue to work in hope of convincing him that there is a real sentiment for his candidacy. They plan to organize Hughes clubs to further this idea.

In the past, under the Nebraska system, if a candidate requested withdrawal of his name, it was stricken off unless those who filed it objected. The primary statutes provide only for the matter of acceptances. If the Hughes petitioners objected, possibly court action would be necessary to keep the names off the ticket.

DEPUTY SHERIFF MUST SERVE TIME FOR KILLING MAN

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Sacramento, Nov. 18.—"Human life is too precious to be jeopardized for the purpose of ascertaining whether parties are engaged in a peaceful game of poker," said Justice A. G. Burnett today in concurring with the opinion of the other justices of the Third district appellate court in the case of W. P. Sidwell, a deputy sheriff of Lassen county, who broke into a room in Westwood and fired, accidentally, it is claimed, into a crowd of poker players, killing one of them.

"Sidwell should have directed the inmates to open the door," continued Justice Burnett, "before resorting to such violence, and I think he should have gone away rather than plunge into the room with his loaded revolver in his hand. Our aversion to vice should not blind us to the more vital consideration of human life itself."

Sidwell, who was sentenced to one year in prison for manslaughter, appealed to the appellate court, but his plea was turned down and he will have to go to prison.

COURTMARTIAL REBUKED BY SECRETARY DANIELS

Washington, Nov. 18.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels today rebuked the courtmartial which acquitted Lieutenant Edson Oaks and K. L. Hill and Chief Machinist Thomas O'Donnell in connection with an explosion of the boilers on the cruiser San Diego in the Gulf of California last January. Excusing them from negligence reflected on the rest of the service, Daniels said.

CANCEL SAILING OF LINERS FOR ALL PORTS IN ITALY

(By United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Nov. 18.—Scheduled sailings of liners for Italy have been cancelled, it developed this afternoon. It is assumed that the cancellations were at the order of the Italian government. Zurich dispatches reported previously that Italy had halted such sailings until she can adequately meet the Austrian submarine warfare, which has been destructive in the past week.

GREECE TOLD TERMS OF ALLIES

King Constantine Hears Offers of France and England, With Threats Should He Join Teutons Against Them

Athens, Nov. 18.—In unmistakable terms, Denys-Cochin, French cabinet minister, today informed King Constantine concerning the allies' terms toward Greece. He told the king what the allies offer for passing cooperation in the Balkan situation, what they will give for active aid, and how they will retaliate if Greece joins the central powers, thus endangering ominously the allies' cause. The conference with the king followed a discussion yesterday with Premier Skouloudis, who upon assuming office notified the allies that Greece would be "benevolently neutral" toward them.

After finishing his discussion with the king, Denys-Cochin probably will go to Saloniki. The least the allies ask for is strict non-interference by Greece with their progress; and strict guarantees that Greece will not attempt to intern the allies if they are driven back across the Greek border from Serbia.

While Paris and London stated after Greece refused the allied offer of the island of Cyprus for her aid that the offer would not be renewed, it is believed now, however, that the allies regard Greek assistance as so valuable that the offer will be made again if King Constantine is inclined to accept the bribe.

Earl Kitchener is expected here before Denys-Cochin finally departs.

Authorities pointed out today that judging from the cordiality with which the populace greeted Denys-Cochin the general public is for the allies. Whether the king will run counter to this apparent public sentiment, however, is still in doubt.

Former Minister of Marine Stratos has gone to Germany, presumably on government business.

Dr. Bert Elliott and Gail Hamilton went to Medford today by auto to attend a dental clinic given by a New York firm.

AMERICAN WHO WAS ABOARD ANCONA CONTRADICTS CLAIM MADE BY AUSTRIA

Washington, Nov. 18.—Protests to Austria over the torpedoing of the Italian liner Ancona, with Americans aboard, will be made by this government as a result of an affidavit from Dr. Cecile Grell, American, contradicting claims of Austria that her submarine commander did not shell survivors as they took to the lifeboats.

The woman's statement was the first authentic report from an American source definitely stating that the passengers had been shelled after the liner stopped. As such it left the administration no alternative but to make a strong protest to Austria.

The summary of the affidavit, as called by Consul Mason of Algiers, said:

"Cecile Grell, intelligent, impartial witness, deposition inconclusive whether Ancona attempted escape. First intimation danger when she dining saloon. Disturbance deck, stoppage, followed shortly shock vessel. Her testimony proves bombardment lasted 45 minutes, continued after vessel stopped, killing, wounding many. She saw tor-

TWO SERBIAN ARMIES NEAR CAPTURE

Escape From Nets Spread by the Invaders Is Now the Only Hope of the Defenders of the Balkan Kingdom

Amsterdam, Nov. 18.—The situation of beleaguered Serbia is desperate today. Both her northern and southern armies are in danger of capture.

The best she can hope for is a chance to abandon the nation to its invaders.

There is a possibility that the northern army can give the Austro-Germans the slip and flee into Montenegro, where they would be welcomed.

In the south, however, the outlet is at Ochrida in the southwestern corner of Serbia. From there, perhaps, the Serbs will make their way into Albania, but even so, they are likely to receive a hostile reception, while if they fled into Greece they probably would be interned.

Everywhere the Austrians, Germans and Bulgarians are rapidly completing their work of clearing the nation of its defenders.

In the south two great events are developing. A big battle is brewing about Strumnitza, near the Serbian-Bulgarian boundary, while Monastir apparently can hold out only a few hours more. The Bulgar armies, in force, have joined at Prilep and are sweeping toward Monastir, a comparatively short march.

Most of Monastir's population has fled. British troops are hurrying to the relief of the city, but it is doubtful whether they will arrive in time to prevent the place from falling into the Bulgars' trap.

WOMAN CHANGES MIND AND MAN WANTS HIS CASH

Portland, Nov. 18.—Alleging that when Miss Mollie M. Patton promised to marry him he tore up promissory notes aggregating \$1,524, which she owed him, Arthur P. Olson has brought suit against her for that amount today. Miss Patton married another.

USE INCOME TAX TO RAISE FUNDS FOR BATTLESHIP

Washington, Nov. 18.—The pall over the question of how to raise revenues for the administration's increased military preparedness program was not lifted today as the result of last night's conference between President Wilson and members of the house budget group. It seemed most likely, however, that Senator Underwood's program of personal taxation would ultimately be adopted. This contemplated a lowering of the income tax exemption so as to raise more money from that particular tax, an increase of the tax on the larger incomes and the extension of war taxes and internal revenue amounts.

It was learned that the president's first message to congress will not treat of the method of raising the revenues but, instead, will leave the question to congress.

BRITISH TROOPS RUSH TO RELIEF OF CITY OF MONASTIR

London, Nov. 18.—Hoping to reach the threatened city of Monastir, in southern Serbia, before it is too late, British troops were en route there today from Saloniki, supplied plentifully with artillery.

The situation of the city, however, momentarily grows more perilous, for Bulgars have joined in force at Prilep and are ready for the assault on the southern town.

Capture of Prilep gives the Bulgars practically an open road to Greece. On this line is Monastir.

Small bands are desperately fighting rearguard actions, hoping that the Anglo-French will reach them before Monastir falls.

Seventy miles east of the Prilep-Monastir line, the great battle of Strumnitza is raging. Turks are reported en route to the Bulgars' aid, and besides they have had other strong reinforcements, which now are fighting viciously to frustrate the allied invasion.

FRENCH BOMBARDMENT OF GERMAN TRENCHES

Paris, Nov. 18.—Concentrated bombardment of the German trenches in the Somme region and Alsace district was officially claimed today. The war office told of a fiery artillery struggle at Bois Givenchy.

EXPLORER MCMILLAN LOST IN NORTH SEAS

Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 18.—That Donald McMillan, explorer, may be lost in the north seas, beyond hope of rescue this winter at least, was indicated in a cablegram which Common Pleas Judge Carroll Sprigg received today from the Danish explorer Rasmussen.

CONSUL AT NAPLES SAYS NO AMERICANS LOST ON BOSNIA

Washington, Nov. 18.—Consul White, at Naples, reported to the state department today that two Americans not heretofore named, were aboard the liner, torpedoed by an Austrian submarine.

The Americans are Giuseppe and Carmela Torriani, who boarded the Ancona at Messina.

White reported that apparently no Americans were lost in the sinking of the steamer Bosnia.

The White Star liner Celtic he reported arrived safely at Naples.

SPRY IS NOT MOVED BY WILSON

Plea of President for Delay in Execution of Hillstrom Unavailing Unless New Evidence Is Produced

Salt Lake City, Nov. 18.—Governor Spry wired President Wilson this afternoon that he would not stay the execution of Joe Hillstrom, I. W. W., who is to be shot for double murder tomorrow, unless new evidence is presented immediately.

With this message all hope for Hillstrom seemed gone. Preparations had been made for sending him before the firing squad tomorrow. The state's gunmen are ready. None shows signs of weakening. If at the last moment anyone does waver, his place will be filled by a reserve gunman.

He will be shot at sunrise, unless the miraculous happens. Every opportunity has been given for the condemned man to present fresh testimony. None has been forthcoming. It seems likely no more can be presented between now and dawn.

The prisoner urged none in his request. His lawyers, apparently, failed to gather from Hillstrom anything further to warrant delay. Without a clergyman, the condemned man will be led from the death chamber out into the prison court yard. There the death chair will be waiting. He will be blindfolded. Five muskets will point at him. At a signal all will fire. One rifle will have a blank cartridge, so that every executioner may feel that he himself was not the one who killed Hillstrom.

Only a few persons will be permitted to witness the execution.

ABANDON ALL HOPE FOR MEN BURIED IN RAVENSDALE MINE

Ravensdale, Wash., Nov. 18.—A rough and rocky road leads from the little town of Ravensdale to a little cemetery on the hill, half a mile away. At this time of year it is almost impassable. Today a big gang of mine workers are repairing it. They are toiling silently and gloomily.

Two days ago they were working at the Northwestern Improvement company's mine here, or in other mines nearby. But when the explosion came Tuesday afternoon, wrecking the mine and burying more than 30 men, the Ravensdale miners were thrown out of work, and the others, as is the custom of miners, quit their jobs and journeyed to the scene of the tragedy.

Part of them donned helmets and tried to rescue the entrapped miners 1,200 feet down in the earth. The others, having nothing to do, went to work on the road to the cemetery. The road will experience unusually heavy travel the next few days.

With 22 miners still buried on the third level of the mine, and with nine bodies recovered, it is believed today, after a careful checking up, that the total dead will be 31. All hope of finding life in any of the 22 still entombed has been abandoned. It may be a week before the debris still wedged into the level between the rescuers and the bodies can be cleared away.

H. H. Lampman, of Gold Hill, spent the day with his old school friend, F. E. Wood.